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On

June 4, 2004

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

Eleanor J. Taylor

**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: A3138/T44100  
AMAT No.: 3138 USA/DSM/BCVD/JW  
TTC No.: 016301-044100US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

MARK POOL et al.

Application No.: 10/022,645

Filed: December 17, 2001

For: MECHANISM FOR PROVIDING  
A CONTINUOUS SUPPLY OF  
WAFERS AND CASSETTES TO  
A SEMICONDUCTOR  
FABRICATION TOOL

Confirmation No. 1784

Examiner: James W. Keenan

Technology Center/Art Unit: 3652

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION  
Mailed December 5, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JUN 17 2004

**GROUP 3600**

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed December 5, 2003 in the above-referenced patent application, please enter the following amendments and remarks. A petition for a three month extension of time is filed herewith.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 5 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes. An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 9 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.